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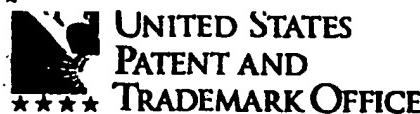
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US 20020010482A1

(19) United States  
 (12) Patent Application Publication (10) Pub. No.: US 2002/0010482 A1  
 Watt (43) Pub. Date: Jan. 24, 2002

(54) BIOPOLYMER SPONGE TUBES, SURGICAL STAPLERS AND METHODS OF USE THEREOF (30) Foreign Application Priority Data  
 (76) Inventor: Paul W. Watt, Steeton (GB) Oct. 3, 1997 (GB) ..... 9721079

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(51) Int. Cl. .... A61B 17/03; B23P 17/04;  
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(57) ABSTRACT

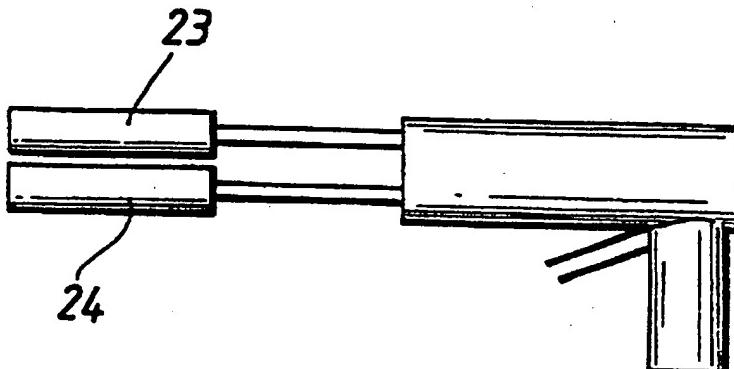
The invention provides biopolymer sponge tubes closed at one end for use in surgery. The preferred biopolymer is collagen. The biopolymer sponge tubes are prepared by forming an aqueous dispersion of the biopolymer, introducing the dispersion into tube-shaped molds, freezing the dispersion in the molds to form a shaped, aqueous dispersion, followed by freeze-drying the frozen aqueous dispersion. The tubes are fitted over endoscopic surgical staplers to provide improved sealing of stapled tissues, especially for air-tight sealing in lung resections.

(21) Appl. No.: 09/887,742

(22) Filed: Jun. 22, 2001

Related U.S. Application Data

(62) Division of application No. 09/164,793, filed on Oct. 1, 1998.



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<b>Application Number:</b>	09/887,742	<b>Customer Number:</b>	-
<b>Filing or 371(c) Date:</b>	06-22-2001	<b>Status:</b>	Non Final Action Ma
<b>Application Type:</b>	Utility	<b>Status Date:</b>	09-22-2003
<b>Examiner Name:</b>	VARGOT, MATHIEU D	<b>Location:</b>	TC 1700 CENTRAL F CP3-10C24
<b>Group Art Unit:</b>	1732	<b>Location Date:</b>	09-22-2003
<b>Confirmation Number:</b>	7733	<b>Earliest Publication No:</b>	US 2002-0010482 A1
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	JJM-575	<b>Earliest Publication Date:</b>	01-24-2002
<b>Class/ Sub-Class:</b>	264/028	<b>Patent Number:</b>	-
<b>First Named Inventor:</b>	Paul Watt, Steeton, (GB)	<b>Issue Date of Patent:</b>	-
<b>Title Of Invention:</b>	Methods for making biopolymer sponge tubes		

[File Contents History](#)[Published Documents](#)**Parent Continuity Data**

Description	Parent Number	Parent Filing or 371(c) Date	Parent Stat
This application is a Division of	09/164,793	10-01-1998	Pending

**Child Continuity Data**

No Child Continuity Data Found.

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